

**Summary of Illness/Injury Incidents
Reported in California as Potentially Related to Pesticide Exposure
Summarized Statewide and by County of Occurrence¹
2004**

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
TOTALS							
Definite	126	109	9	1	7	13	113
Probable	426	93	188	60	85	200	226
Possible	276	18	104	84	70	177	99
Unlikely	46	1	17	15	13	35	11
Indirect	8	0	0	6	2	0	8
Asymptomatic	74	3	36	25	10	61	13
Unrelated	186						
Insufficient	13						
Unavailable	83						
OVERALL	1238	224	354	191	187	486	470
COUNTY ⁵							
ALAMEDA							
Definite	3	3	0	0	0	0	3
Probable	7	2	0	1	4	0	7
Possible	6	2	1	1	2	0	6
Unlikely	2	0	0	0	2	1	1
Unrelated	2						
Unavailable	5						
BUTTE							
Probable	6	0	2	1	3	3	3
Possible	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
Unrelated	1						
CALAVERAS							
Probable	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Unrelated	1						
COLUSA							
Possible	2	0	0	2	0	1	1
Unrelated	2						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
CONTRA COSTA							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Probable	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Possible	3	1	0	0	2	0	3
Unlikely	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	2						
Unavailable	1						
DEL NORTE							
Unrelated	1						
EL DORADO							
Probable	3	0	3	0	0	3	0
FRESNO							
Definite	3	2	0	0	1	0	3
Probable	42	6	20	10	6	31	11
Possible	19	0	3	13	3	11	8
Asymptomatic	4	0	0	2	2	4	0
Unrelated	8						
Insufficient	2						
GLENN							
Possible	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Unrelated	1						
HUMBOLDT							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Unavailable	2						
IMPERIAL							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Probable	5	0	4	0	1	5	0
Unrelated	3						
Unavailable	3						
KERN							
Definite	7	4	3	0	0	3	4
Probable	111	6	100	1	4	99	12
Possible	60	0	28	24	8	58	2
Unlikely	5	0	0	2	3	4	1
Asymptomatic	17	1	15	1	0	16	1
Unrelated	14						
Unavailable	5						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
KINGS							
Unrelated	3						
LAKE							
Probable	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Possible	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Unrelated	1						
Unavailable	1						
LASSEN							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
LOS ANGELES							
Definite	28	24	0	0	4	1	27
Probable	48	15	16	9	8	0	48
Possible	16	2	1	7	6	0	16
Unlikely	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Indirect	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Asymptomatic	4	0	1	0	3	0	4
Unrelated	35						
Insufficient	3						
Unavailable	24						
MADERA							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Probable	3	1	1	1	0	3	0
Possible	5	0	3	1	1	5	0
Unlikely	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Asymptomatic	5	0	5	0	0	5	0
Unrelated	3						
MARIN							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Probable	2	1	1	0	0	0	2
Possible	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Unrelated	3						
Unavailable	1						
MARIPOSA							
Unavailable	1						
MENDOCINO							
Definite	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Possible	2	0	0	0	2	0	2
Unrelated	1						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
MERCED							
Definite	4	3	1	0	0	3	1
Probable	10	1	0	8	1	2	8
Possible	7	2	1	3	1	3	4
Unlikely	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Asymptomatic	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Unrelated	8						
MONTEREY							
Definite	6	5	1	0	0	2	4
Probable	25	3	11	11	0	23	2
Possible	57	0	48	8	1	57	0
Unlikely	18	0	16	1	1	17	1
Asymptomatic	34	0	13	21	0	34	0
Unrelated	3						
Insufficient	2						
Unavailable	6						
NAPA							
Probable	7	3	3	1	0	2	5
Possible	7	1	3	1	2	3	4
Asymptomatic	2	0	2	0	0	0	2
Unrelated	4						
Unavailable	1						
NEVADA							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
ORANGE							
Definite	3	3	0	0	0	0	3
Probable	8	1	0	0	7	0	8
Possible	6	0	2	1	3	0	6
Indirect	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	7						
Unavailable	4						
PLACER							
Unrelated	1						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
RIVERSIDE							
Definite	4	3	0	0	1	0	4
Probable	8	3	2	1	2	1	7
Possible	4	0	1	1	2	0	4
Unrelated	8						
Unavailable	2						
SACRAMENTO							
Definite	4	3	0	1	0	0	4
Probable	3	2	1	0	0	0	3
Possible	4	0	1	0	3	1	3
Unlikely	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Unrelated	3						
Unavailable	3						
SAN BENITO							
Possible	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Unrelated	1						
SAN BERNARDINO							
Definite	9	8	1	0	0	0	9
Probable	29	3	2	1	23	0	29
Possible	7	2	0	1	4	0	7
Unrelated	15						
Insufficient	1						
SAN DIEGO							
Definite	12	11	0	0	1	0	12
Probable	20	12	3	2	3	2	18
Possible	8	2	2	3	1	2	6
Unlikely	2	0	0	2	0	1	1
Indirect	5	0	0	5	0	0	5
Asymptomatic	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Unrelated	14						
Unavailable	7						
SAN FRANCISCO							
Definite	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Probable	2	1	0	0	1	0	2
Possible	2	0	1	0	1	0	2
Unrelated	2						
Insufficient	3						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
SAN JOAQUIN							
Definite	8	7	1	0	0	0	8
Probable	20	13	3	2	2	3	17
Possible	10	2	2	2	4	6	4
Unlikely	7	0	0	5	2	7	0
Asymptomatic	2	1	0	0	1	1	1
Unrelated	15						
Unavailable	2						
SAN MATEO							
Probable	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Possible	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Asymptomatic	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	2						
Unavailable	1						
SANTA BARBARA							
Probable	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Possible	2	0	0	1	1	1	1
Unlikely	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Indirect	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unavailable	1						
SANTA CLARA							
Definite	4	4	0	0	0	0	4
Probable	5	2	3	0	0	0	5
Possible	4	1	0	0	3	0	4
Unrelated	6						
Unavailable	2						
SANTA CRUZ							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Unlikely	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	1						
SHASTA							
Possible	2	1	0	1	0	1	1
Unrelated	2						
Insufficient	1						
SISKIYOU							
Probable	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Possible	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Unavailable	1						

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
SOLANO							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Probable	4	1	3	0	0	0	4
Unrelated	1						
Unavailable	2						
SONOMA							
Definite	4	4	0	0	0	0	4
Probable	6	4	1	1	0	0	6
Possible	4	0	0	1	3	3	1
Unlikely	2	0	0	1	1	1	1
Asymptomatic	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	3						
Unavailable	2						
STANISLAUS							
Definite	6	6	0	0	0	2	4
Probable	10	0	2	5	3	4	6
Possible	10	2	0	3	5	3	7
Unlikely	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Unrelated	7						
Unavailable	1						
SUTTER							
Probable	18	0	2	0	16	16	2
Possible	3	0	0	0	3	3	0
Asymptomatic	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Unrelated	1						
Unavailable	1						
TEHAMA							
Definite	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Unlikely	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
TULARE							
Definite	3	2	1	0	0	0	3
Probable	7	4	1	1	1	2	5
Possible	14	0	5	6	3	14	0

Relationship ²	Total Cases	Type Of Exposure ³				Intended Use ⁴	
		Direct Contact	Drift	Residue	Other/ Unknown	Agricultural	Non-Agricultural
VENTURA							
Definite	2	2	0	0	0	1	1
Probable	7	2	2	3	0	0	7
Possible	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Insufficient	1						
Unavailable	4						
YOLO							
Definite	3	3	0	0	0	0	3
Probable	2	2	0	0	0	0	2
Possible	3	0	1	1	1	1	2
Unlikely	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Asymptomatic	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
Unrelated	1						

1. **Source:** California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program.
The term “potentially related to pesticide exposure” refers to all cases reported to the program, some of which were later determined to be unrelated to pesticide exposure.
2. **Relationship:** Degree of correlation between pesticide exposure and resulting symptomatology.
 - Definite : High degree of correlation between pattern of exposure and resulting symptomatology. Requires both medical evidence (such as measured cholinesterase inhibition, positive allergy tests, characteristic signs observed by medical professional) and physical evidence of exposure (environmental and/or biological samples, exposure history) to support the conclusions.
 - Probable : Relatively high degree of correlation exists between the pattern of exposure and the resulting symptomatology. Either medical or physical evidence is inconclusive or unavailable.
 - Possible : Some degree of correlation evident. Medical and physical evidence are inconclusive or unavailable.
 - Unlikely : A correlation cannot be ruled out absolutely. Medical and/or physical evidence suggest a cause other than pesticide exposure.
 - Indirect : Pesticide exposure is not responsible, but pesticide regulations or product label requirements contributed in some way, (e.g. heat stress while wearing chemical resistant clothing).
 - Asymptomatic : Exposure occurred, but did not result in illness/injury. Cholinesterase depression without symptoms falls in this category.
 - Unrelated : Definite evidence of cause other than pesticide exposure including exposures to chemicals other than pesticides. Since there is no exposure to pesticides, there are no entries under “Type of Exposure” or “Intended Use.”

Insufficient : The available information is inadequate to make an informed judgment on the relationship between pesticide exposure and the reported symptomatology. For submitted investigations, the investigator failed to make an adequate attempt to obtain the necessary information. Since a relationship to pesticide exposure cannot be determined, there are no entries under “Type of Exposure” or “Intended Use.”

Unavailable : The available information is inadequate to make an informed judgement on the relationship between pesticide exposure and the reported symptomatology. For submitted investigations, the investigator made an adequate attempt to collect the necessary information, but was not able to do so (e.g., none of the parties concerned could be contacted). Since a relationship to pesticide exposure cannot be determined, there are no entries under “Type of Exposure” or “Intended Use.”

3. Type of Exposure: Characterization of how an individual came in contact with a pesticide.

Direct Contact : An appreciable amount of pesticide contacted the individual’s body surface. This includes: 1) sprays or squirts from application equipment; 2) leaks or spills whether or not related to the application; and 3) deliberate immersion (as when cleaning implements in a basin with antimicrobials). This excludes drift exposures.

Drift : Spray, mist, fumes, or odor carried from the target site by air. Drift must be related to an application or mix/load activity.

Residue : The part of a pesticide that remains in the environment for a period of time following an application or drift. This includes odor after the completion of an application.

Other/Unknown : Any of the following: 1) ingestion; 2) multiple routes of exposure; 3) residue from a spill; 4) exposure to smoke or pyrolytic products from a fire where pesticides are burning; 5) route of exposure is not known.

4. Intended Use: Agricultural/Non-Agricultural - Indicates whether the pesticide(s) were intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities.

Agricultural : The pesticide(s) were intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities, including livestock. This includes: 1) agricultural research facilities, 2) handling of raw agricultural commodities in packing houses, 3) drift from agricultural applications into non-agricultural areas, and 4) transportation and storage of pesticides on farm lands. It excludes forestry operations, although they are classified as agricultural for regulatory purposes. It also excludes manufacture, transportation, and storage of pesticides prior to arrival at the site of agricultural production.

Non-Agricultural : The pesticide(s) were not intended to contribute to the production of agricultural commodities. This includes: 1) residential pesticide uses, 2) structural pest control, 3) rights-of-way, 4) parks, 5) landscaped urban areas, and 6) manufacture, transportation and storage of pesticides except on farm lands.

5. County: Individual counties in California where the incident occurred. If a county is not listed, there were no reported illnesses for that county for the year.

Whom to Contact:

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Worker Health and Safety Branch
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Mailing address: P.O. Box 4015, Sacramento, CA 95812-4015
Fax: (916) 445-4280
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About the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program Data

Pesticide-related illnesses have been tracked within the state of California for more than 50 years. The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) maintains a surveillance program which records human health effects of pesticide exposure. The Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP) documents information on adverse effects from pesticide products, whether elicited by the active ingredients, inert ingredients, impurities, or breakdown products. This program maintains a database, which is utilized for evaluating the circumstances of pesticide exposures resulting in illness. This database is consulted regularly by staff who evaluate(s) the effectiveness of the DPR pesticide safety programs and recommend changes when appropriate.